

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 7-15, 17, and 22-33, and 35-40 are pending. Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 35-40 have been added. Per the Examiner's Interviews of January 14 and January 6, 2009, claims 10-12 have been rejoined. Claims 1-6, 16, 18-21, and 34 have been canceled.

Support for the amendment to claim 7 appears at least at ¶0052-0053 and ¶0084. It is noted that the amendment to claim 7 does not change the scope of the claim given that "quinone molecule derivative" is defined in the specification as a quinone molecule "modified with a functional group capable of bonding with a polymer or an enzyme" (¶0052). The specification further provides that "the derivative ... must be modified with a functional group capable of bonding with a polymer described below or a biopolymer such as an enzyme" (¶0053). In the interest of furthering prosecution, such definition has been introduced into the claims.

Support for new claim 35 appears at least at ¶0084. Support for new claim 36 appears at least at ¶0086. Support for new claim 37-38 appears at least at ¶0085. Support for new claims 39-40 appears at least at canceled claim 34.

No new matter has been added by way of this response.

Election/Restrictions

As noted above, claims 7-15, 17, and 22-33 are pending, with claims 7-9, 13-15, 17, and 22-33 examined in the prior Action of May 22, 2008.

Persuant to the Examiner's Interviews of January 14 and January 26, 2009, claims 10-12, directed to non-elected species, are REJOINED.

Claims 16 and 34, directed to non-elected Invention Group II, were canceled in the prior Response of November 21, 2008. Applicants reserve the right to pursue such non-elected canceled subject matter in a subsequently filed application, such as a Divisional application.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Applicants respectfully traverse and, for the following reasons, request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-9, 13-15, 17, and 22-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miki et al. (1989) Analytical Sciences 5(3), 269 ("Miki") in view of Kawabata Yuji, JP 2000-133297, May 12, 2000 ("Yuji").

In the interest of furthering prosecution, claim 7 is further amended herein in accord with the Examiner's Interviews of January 14 and January 26, 2009.

The arguments of the prior Response of November 21, 2009, are maintained over the subject matter of the claims as presented in that Response. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter presented in the claims of the prior Response of November 21, 2009, in a subsequently filed application, such as a Continuation Application.

In view of the amendments presented herein and the Examiner's Interviews of January 14 and January 26, 2009, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdrawn the above rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and believe that the claims as presented represent allowable subject matter. If the Examiner desires, Applicants welcome a telephone interview to expedite prosecution. Applicants believe there are no fees due at this time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any deficiency or credit any overpayment with respect to this response to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,

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